

Appln. No. 10/038,207
AMENDMENT AND ACCOMPANYING TERMINAL DISCLAIMER
Docket No. BRAD-108A-1

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] This application is a continuation-in-part of co-pending application No. 09/921,979, filed August 3, 2001, published November 28, 2002 as Publication No. 2002/0175510 A1, which claims priority of provisional application No. 60/293,613, filed May 25, 2001, said application No. 09/921,979 also being a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/327,245, filed June 7, 1999, now abandoned, and a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/493,628, filed January 28, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,458,724, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/327,243, filed June 7, 1999, now patent No. 6,239,046, and application No. 09/327,244, also filed June 7, 1999, now abandoned in favor of continuation application No. 09/956,639, filed September 19, 2001, published February 21, 2002 as Publication No. 2002/0022420 A1; this application is also a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/956,639, filed September 19, 2001, published February 21, 2002 as Publication No. 2002/0022420 A1, which is a continuation of said application No. 09/327,244, filed June 7, 1999, now abandoned; this application is also a continuation-in-part of copending application No. 09/956,640, filed September 19, 2001, published December 12, 2002 as Publication No. 2002/0187696 A1, which is a continuation of application No. 09/327,245, filed June 7, 1999, now abandoned. All of these parent applications are fully incorporated by reference herein and made a part of this disclosure.

Please replace the paragraph [0008] with the following amended paragraph:

[0008] Typically, an air bag is constructed by joining two or more woven textile fabrics, each of which has been pre-coated with a sealing material to maintain air pressure when the bag is inflated. The pre-coated fabric is configured to the desired shape as, for example, by cutting, and the separate pieces are then sewn or welded together. Frequently, they are both sewn and welded for strength and air holding purposes. Air holding capability in vehicle restraint devices has been accomplished through the application of coatings such as chloroprene and silicone rubber to a textile fabric (e.g., nylon). Menzel, U.S. Patent No. 5,110,666 discloses a woven nylon fabric coated with polyurethane to provide the desired permeability and retention of inflation gas. Improved polyurethane, acrylic, polyamide, and silicone coatings that are coated in layers on the fabrics have recently been developed. It has been found that adhesion and heat sealing characteristics are greatly improved with such layered coatings. Examples of such coated fabrics and methods of coating such fabrics are disclosed in commonly assigned applications Nos. 09/327,244 and 09/327,245, filed June 7, 1999, now abandoned in favor of continuation applications Ser. No. 09/956,639, filed September 19, 2001, published February 21, 2002 as Publication No. 2002/0022420 A1, and Ser. No. 09/956,640, filed September 19, 2001, published December 12, 2002 as Publication No. 2002/0187696 A1, respectively, ~~both of which were filed on September 19, 2001~~ and U.S. patent No. 6,239,046, issued May 29, 2001, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this disclosure. Another example of a greatly improved bonding system is a polyurethane epoxy resin and polysiloxane beaded heat seal, which is disclosed in copending commonly assigned application No. 09/452,030, filed November

30, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,350,709, which is incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this disclosure. Further developments in air bag technology are disclosed in commonly assigned copending applications, No. 09/459,768, filed December 13, 1999, now abandoned, in which the inflatable safety device incorporates connective tethers within the restraint device to provide structural support and stiffening when it is inflated, and No. 09/572,176, filed May 17, 2000, which relates to a sewn fusion seal process for producing air holding vehicle restraint systems such as those disclosed herein, both of which are incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this disclosure.

Please replace paragraph [0025] with the following amended paragraph:

[0025] More specifically, the polycarbonate polyurethane component is a polycarbonate polyol-based aliphatic polyurethane. The hot melt component comprises a polyester or polyether-based polyurethane or copolymer blends of ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA). The isocyanate component is a blocked aliphatic HDI isocyanate (hexamethylene diisocyanate), such as the HDI isocyanate manufactured by Bayer Corp. of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. To this prime coat adhesive composition may be added such additional materials as antibacterial additives, flame retardants, colorants, heat stabilizers and finely ground silica, which serves as a reinforcement for the adhesive material. Silica may be added in amounts of from about 2% to 3% by weight, and may be obtained from the Degussa Corp. of Ridgefield, N.J. as its [[Aerosil]]AEROSIL 380® product.

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Amendment to the Abstract of the Disclosure:

Please cancel the previous Abstract of the Disclosure and substitute the attached new Abstract of the Disclosure which is on the page following page 9.

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REMARKS

Claims 1-48 are pending herein. By this Amendment, the specification is amended and a new Abstract is added. No new matter is added by this Amendment.

I. INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant respectfully requests Examiner Singh to initial and return the Form PTO-1449 filed with a Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement on March 18, 2003.

II. FORMAL MATTERS

The Abstract of the Disclosure is objected to as being too long. The current Abstract is deleted and a new Abstract is attached that complies with MPEP 608.01(b). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

The specification is objected to as assertedly improperly using trademarks or tradenames. Paragraph [0025] is amended to capitalize the recited trademark. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

As requested by the Examiner, the specification has been amended to update the status of each of the disclosed patent applications.

III. DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTIONS

Claims 1-48 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-40 of copending application no. 10/232,210.

Claims 1-48 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over the claims of copending application no. 09/956,639.

Claims 1-48 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over the claims of copending application no. 09/956,640.

Claims 1-48 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over the claims of copending application no. 09/921,979.

Claims 1-48 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-14 of copending application no. 10/039,692.

Claims 1-48 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-14 of U.S. Patent No. 6,239,046.

Claims 1-48 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-27 of U.S. Patent No. 6,458,724.

Claims 1-48 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-14 of U.S. Patent No. 6,350,709.

Claims 1-48 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-35 of U.S. Patent No. 6,455,449.

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Applicant respectfully disagrees that the claims of the cited patent applications and patents teach or suggest the claimed automotive protective device; the method of manufacturing the automotive protective device; the composite sealing and air holding laminating film; or method of making the composite sealing and air holding laminating film. Moreover, Applicant respectfully notes that Claims 1-14 of copending application No. 10/039,692 have been canceled, thereby rendering the rejection over claims 1-14 improper. Nevertheless to advance and expedite prosecution, a Terminal Disclaimer is filed herewith rendering the double patenting rejections moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

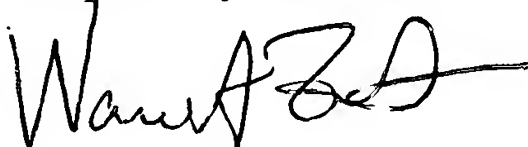
IV. CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing remarks, this application should be in condition for allowance, and early passage of this case to issue is respectfully requested. If there are any questions regarding this Amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application.

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Attached is a check for \$55.00 for the disclaimer fee (small entity). If there are any discrepancies in the fees, please charge or credit our Deposit Account No. 501032 (Docket No. BRAD-108A-1).

Respectfully submitted,



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September 25, 2003

Attachments:

New Abstract of the Disclosure
Terminal Disclaimer
Check for \$55.00 (disclaimer fee)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence dated 9/25/03 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 9/25/03.



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Date: 9/25/03